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MUSI 291.01: The Music of Ireland - Traditional and Contemporary

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IRISH STUDIES

The Music of Ireland: Traditional and Contemporary

75608 ENIR 395, 01, 3 credits; 75607 MUSI 291, 01, 3 credits

Tentative Schedule for Fall Semester, 2013

Wednesday Evenings, 6-9 p.m., Rm. 105, Music Building

Professor Patrick C. Williams, Rm. 106, Ext 4471

Required texts:

Irish Traditional Music, Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin (UC Bookstore)

FOCUS: Irish Traditional Music, Sean Williams (UC Bookstore)

Course Description

The Music of Ireland: Traditional and Contemporary is designed as an introductory-level survey of instrumental and vocal music, along with dance, presented within (and without) the cultural history of the country, and communities of the Irish diaspora in Europe and North America. Using historical field recordings, along with university and private collections, the course will feature the celebrated musicians, authors, poets, and artists of the past and present. As this folk art has so deeply influenced the contemporary 'classical' world of composition, representative works drawn from today's 'concert' literature will also play an important role. Guest artists and lecturers from Ireland and the United States, including members of the immediate university community and performers from across Montana, are invited to perform and share their personal experiences and artistic insight with students in classroom and concert hall settings.

Grading: Students will be evaluated on four criteria:

- ❖ Attendance in class and at scheduled lectures and concerts; remember: missing one evening is equal to missing 3 class meetings!
- ❖ Participation in class discussion
- ❖ In-class presentation of short research projects (see *nota bene* below)
- ❖ Weekly quizzes on reading assignments (see NB below)
- ❖ Required Listening: FITM CD All Tracks

NB: Students should prepare for quizzes on reading assignments as listed for each class meeting. It is best to read ahead, allowing time for review of *musical terms*, *vernacular*, *historical 'markers'* (significant dates), *performer names and instruments*. Keeping a notebook would be very useful during personal reading sessions and in class meetings. In-class presentations will be scheduled following the first class meeting.

Mí Lúnasa

(mee loo-na-sa)

- 28: **Roaratorio: An Irish Circus on Finnegans Wake** by John Cage (1912-1992),
Open Mic (OM): Professor Traolach O’Riordain, Director of UM Irish Studies;
Sight and Sound Experience (SSE) *Music of Ireland: Welcome Home* (PBS)
Recordings of Interest: Sean Williams: FITM Listening Guide (Required Listening)
Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin: selections from *Tracín’*
The Clancy Brothers & Tommy Makem: *Finnigan’s Wake, The Parting Glass*

Handouts:

Class syllabus

Óró, Sé Do Bheatha ‘Bhaile!

The Parting Glass

Meán Fómhair

(man for)

- 4: **Irish Traditional Music (ITM)**
Glossary of Traditional Music Terms (p. 185)
A Note on Session Etiquette (p. 188)
FOCUS: Irish Traditional Music (FITM)
Chapter 1. Looking in from the Outside
OM: Guest Artists (GA): **Eric Hutchins, Ellie Nuño and Stu Williams**
SSE: *Music of Ireland: Welcome Home, Part Two* (PBS)
- 11: **ITM:** Introduction
Chapter 1. Music in Early and Medieval Ireland
FITM: Chapter 2. Roots and Branches of Gaelic Ireland
OM: GA: **Sarah Donnelly, Irish dance**
SSE: “The Bodhrán” with Steáfán Hannigan
Recordings of Interest: The Dolphin’s Way: Micheál Ó Súilleabháin with Colm Murphy
Past Masters of Irish Dance Music: selections
Paddy in the Smoke: Irish dance Music from a London Pub
- 18: **OM:** Guest Artist: **Simon and Maria O’Dwyer**
SSE: Ancient Music Ireland
- 19: **The University of Montana President’s Lecture Series**
Simon and Maria O’Dwyer: *Prehistoric Music of Ireland*
Dennison Theatre, 7:30 p.m. Attendance Required
- 25: **ITM:** Chapter 2. Tudor and Stuart Ireland
Chapter 3. Jacobites, Dancing Masters and the Penal Era
FITM: Chapter 3. “Hang All Harpers Where Found”
OM: Instrument of the day: Harp – GA(s): **Gráinne Hambley and William Jackson**

Recordings of Interest: Gráinne Hambley and William Jackson: Music from Ireland and Scotland
Seamus Heaney & Liam O'Flynn: from *The Poet & the Piper*
Patrick Ball, Celtic Harp: The Music of Turlough O'Carolan
The Britannia Family of Wales: The Harpers of Llanerch-y-Medd

26: Guest Artist Concert: Gráinne Hambley and William Jackson

Music Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. Attendance Required

Deireadh Fómhair

(jer-ah for)

2: **ITM:** Chapter 4. Music of the Exiles 1700-1830

FITM: Chapter 4 – Musics of the “Celtic” Nations

OM: Instrument of the day: fiddle – **Margaret Baldrige** and **Ellie Nuño**

SSE: *Celtic Feet; Dancing on Dangerous Ground* with Jean Butler & Colin Dunne;
Damhsaí Cúplaí Thir Chonaill (The Couple Dances of Donegal)

Recordings of Interest: James Kelly & Zan McLeod: *The Ring Sessions* and *Melodic Journeys*;
Gearóid Ó hAllmhuráin: *Tracín*
The Independence Suite: Traditional Music from Ireland, Scotland &
Cape Breton
The Heart of Cape Breton: selections

9: **ITM:** Chapter 5. Pipers, *Spailpíns* and Patriots

FITM: Listening Guide, pages 245-269, CD tracks

OM: Instrument of the day: guitar and banjo – **Eric Hutchins**

SSE: *Come West Along The Road*: 2, 17, 23, 32, 38, 46; *Ragús*,

Recordings of Interest: Eoin Duignan selections from *Ancient Rite* and *Lumina*
World Library of Folk and Primitive Music, volume 11
Tommy Makem, Liam Clancy: *The Lark in the Morning*
Matt Molloy with Dónal Lunny

16: **ITM:** Chapter 6 – Silence in the Land of Song: Post-Famine Ireland

FITM: Listening Guide pages 245-269, CD tracks

OM: Instrument of the day: bouzouki, guitar – GA(s): **Roger Landes**

SSE: *Come West Along The Road*: 1, 4, 7, 9, 11, 13, 18, 20, 24, 26, 36, 37, 39, 41, 43
Donal Lunny; The Fureys & Davey Arthur

17: **Guest Artist Concert: Roger Landes, Bouzouki**

Music Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. Attendance Required

23: **ITM:** Chapter 7 – Quebec to the Klondike: The Famine Diaspora

FITM: Chapter 5 – The Green Fields of America

OM: Instrument of the day: uilleann pipes, tin whistle and flute

GA(s): **Gary Janego**, bodhrán et al

SSE: Micho Russell: *Ireland's Whistling Ambassador*

Recordings of Interest: Eoin O'Riabháigh selections
Willie Clancy The Music of Willie Clancy Volumes I and II
Light Through The Leaves (tin whistle), selections
Matt Molloy with Dónal Lunny

Joannie Madden: *Song of the Irish Whistle*
Eoin Duignan (low whistles): *Ancient Rite*

- 30: **ITM:** Chapter 8 – Records, Radios and Halls: ‘The New Century’
FITM: Chapter 6 – Irish Instrumental Music
OM: Instrument of the day: concertina – **Stu Williams**
SSE: *Mise Éire*, ceol: Seán Ó Riada
Recordings of Interests: The Wheels of the World, volumes 1 and 2
Oldtime Records, Recordings: Trad Irish 1920’s & 30’s (NY)
James Galway: *The Celtic Minstrel*
Lúnasa

Mí na Samhna
(mee na **sow**-nah)

- 6: **FITM:** Chapter 7 – Vocal Music in Irish-Gaelic
OM: Instrument(s) of the day: voice – **Páddí Mhárthain & Maedbh Ní Bheagloich**
Recordings of Interest: The Voice of the People *First I’m going to sing you a ditty*
World Library of Folk and Primitive Music: vol. 11, vocal selections
- 7: **Guest Artist Concert: Páddí Mhárthain and Maedbh Ní Bheagloich**
Music Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. Attendance Required
- 13: **ITM:** Chapter 9 – Ennis, Ó Riada and the Fleadh: A Tradition Restored
FITM: Chapter 9 – New Contexts for Music and Dance
OM: *Malarkey*
SSE: Student Presentations
Recordings of Interest: Planxty: *Timedance* (Eurovision Song Contest 1981: Interval (YouTube));
Riverdance (YouTube)
O’Donoghue’s Opera (YouTube)
- 20: **ITM:** Chapter 10. From Friel’s Kitchen to the New Millenium
FITM: Chapter 8 – Vocal Music in English
OM: UM Voice Faculty and Students
SSE: Student Presentations
Recordings of Interest: Seán Tyrell: Selected recordings
Tommy O’Sullivan: *Song Ablaze*
Celtic Woman: Songs from the Heart
Cherish the Ladies: *Women of the House*, with Joannie Madden
The Pogues
McNally’s Row of Flats (1882) vocal selections
John McCormack: selections from “My Wild Irish Rose”
The Bothy Band
The Chieftains
Traditional Irish Music in America: *The East Coast*
The Irish Album (RCA Victor) *The Irish Suite*, Boston Pops/Arthur Fiedler
- 27: **Thanksgiving Break**

Mí na Nollag
(mee nah **nul**-ug)

4: **OM:** Liam O'Maonlai
SSE: Student Presentations

5: **Guest Artist Concert:** Liam O'Maonlai
Music Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m. Attendance Required

11: Finals Week: Student Presentations

Óró, Sé Do Bheatha 'Bhaile! "*Oro, Welcome Home!*"

- Written by Pádraig Pearse, one of the leaders of the Irish Rebellion of 1916, "Oro, Welcome Home" was an invitation to all the Irishmen in Europe who were fighting for the British Empire and the freedom of small nations to come home and tackle the ancient foe on their own little island. (The Irish Song Book, Clancy Brothers & Tommy Makem, Oak Publications 1979)

Chorus:

Óró, Sé Do Bheatha 'Bhaile! (x3)
Oh-ro, shay dhu vah-ha wal-yeh!

Anois ar theacht an tsamhraidh.
Ah-nish err hockth on thou-rig

Local and Web Resources:

The Music of Ireland CD Collection (See Prof. Williams)

The Mansfield Library of The University of Montana

Rockin' Rudy's, CDs, DVDs, etc., Missoula, MT

www.itma.ie Irish Traditional Music Archive

www.liveireland.com Live Irish Internet Radio + TV from Dublin, Ireland

www.ossianusa.com Mail-order Music, Retail Music Shop, Festival Sales

The Music of Ireland CD Collection

Altan (The Best of), Green Linnet 1997

Bothy Band (The), 'Old Hag you have Killed Me', Mulligan Records 1976

Boys of the Town, Fresh Track Studio, Portland, Oregon 2006

Burke, Kevin, 'Rendezvous': Celtic Fiddle Festival, Green Linnet Records 2001

Burke, Kevin, 'Sweeney's Dream', Smithsonian folkways Recordings 2001

Cape Breton, The Heart of, Smithsonian Folkways Recordings 2002

Celtic Crossroads, Putamayo World Music 2005

Celtic Woman: 'A New Journey', Manhattan Records 2006

Cherish the Ladies: 'The Girls Won't Leave the Boys Alone', Windham Hill 2001
 Cherish the Ladies: 'Woman of the House', Rounder Records Corp. 2005
 Chieftains (The), 'An Irish Evening', BMG Music 1992
 Chieftains, 'Down the Old Plank Road', The Nashville Sessions, BMG 2002
 Chieftains, The Essential..., RCA Victor/Legacy, 2006
 Chieftains, 'San Patricio', Blackrock Records LLC 2010
 Chieftains, 'Water from the Well', BMG Entertainment 2000
 Clancy Brothers (The) & Tommy Makem, 'Come Fill your Glass with Us', Empire 2006
 Clancy Brothers & Tommy Makem, 'In Person at Carnegie Hall 1963', Sony 2009
 Clannad: Greatest Hits, BMG 2000
 Crested Hens (The), Conroy Digital Sound Studio (local)
 Danú, 'The Road Less Traveled', Shanachie 2003
 Dubliners (The), Irish Pub Songs, ARC Music Productions 2001
 Duignan, Eoin, 'Ancient Rite', Oifig an Cheoil 1999
 Duignan, Eoin, 'Lumina', Oifig an Cheoil 2004
 Fraser, Alisdair, 'Fire & Grace', Culburnie Records 2004
 Fraser, Alasdair, Legacy of the Scottish Fiddle volume one, Culburnie Records 2000
 Galway, James, 'The Celtic Minstrel', BMG 1996
 Hesperus, 'Celtic Roots', Maggie's Music Inc. 1999
 Independence Suite (The), collected artists, Celtic Crossings 2004
 Irish Album (The), RCA Victor/BMG 1989
 Irish Dance Music, 'Paddy in the Smoke', collected artists, Topic Records 1997
 Irish Dance Music, Past Masters of, collected artists, Topic Records 2000
 Irish Rovers (The), 'The Best of the Irish Rovers', MCA Records 1999
 Kelly, James, 'Melodic Journeys', James Kelly Music 2004
 Kelly, James, 'The Ring Sessions', James Kelly Music 1995
 Lark in the Morning (The), collected artists, Empire 2006
 Lúnasa, Compass Records 2002
 Light Through The Leaves, collected artists, Rounder Records Corp. 2001
 Madden, Joanie, 'Song of the Irish Flute', Hearts of Space 1996
 Malloy, Matt, 'Matt Molloy with Dónal Lunny', Compass Records Group 2008
 Malloy, Matt, 'Music at Matt Molloy's', Real World Records 1992
 Masters of the Irish Guitar, collected artists, Shanachie 2006
 McCormack, John, 'My Wild Irish Rose', BMG 1997
 Moloney, Mick, 'McNally's Row of Flats', Compass Records 2006
 Moore, Christy, 'Christy Moore', Atlantic Recording Corporation 1988
 Music of Ireland: Welcome Home (PBS), Elevation Management, LLC 2010
 Ó hAllmhuráin, Gearóid, *Tracín*, Trad. Music from the West of Ireland, Celtic Crossings 1999
 Ó hAllmhuráin, Gearóid, Traditional Music from Clare and Beyond, Celtic Crossings 2005
 Oldtime Records, vol. 1, U.S. Recordings, collected artists, OTR 2006
 Original Irish boys (The), '40 Irish Songs Everyone Ought to Know', Primo 2006
 Ó Súilleabháin, Mícheál, 'Becoming', Virgin Records 1998
 Ó Súilleabháin, Mícheál, 'The Dolphin's Way', Virgin Records 1987
 O'Sullivan, Tommy, Sliabh Notes, Kells Music 1996
 O'Sullivan, Tommy, Sliabh Notes: 'Along Blackwater's Banks', Ossian Publications 2002
 O'Sullivan, Tommy, 'Song Ablaze', Tommy O'Sullivan 2006
 Patrick Street, Compendium, Green Linnet Records 2000
 Planxty, 'The Well Below the Valley', Shanachie 2001
 Pogues (The), 'Rum, Sodomy & the Lash', WEA Records 2004
 Poozies (The), 'Infinite Blue', Compass Records 1999
 Rasmussen, Laurie (harp), 'The Dawning of the Day', Lorelei Music 1995

Ryan, Sheíla, 'Down by the Glenside', SOCAN 1995
 Savall, Jordi, The Celtic Viol, Alia-Vox 2008
 Traditional Irish Music in America, The East Coast, Rounder Records Corp. 2001
 Wheels of the World (The), volumes 1 and 2, Early Irish-American Music, Yazoo/Shanachie 1996
 Whelan, John, Celtic Roots: Spirit of the Dance, Narada Productions, Inc. 2002
 Williams. John & Dean Magraw, 'Raven', Compass Records 2006
 World Library of Folk and Primitive Music vol.11: Ireland, Rounder Records Corp. 1998
 Voice of the People (The), 'First I'm going to sing you a ditty', Topic Records 1998

DVD, VHS collection:

Celtic Woman, Manhattan Records/Capitol Records, Inc., 2004 (DVD)
Celtic Woman: Songs from the Heart, EMI (2009 DVD)
Chieftains (The), 'Live at Montreux 1997', Eagle Eye Media, 2009 (DVD)
Come West Along the Road, RTÉ, 2005 (DVD)
Damhsaí Cúplaí Thir Chonaill – Cairdeas na bhFidiléirí, 2007 (DVD)
 'The Couple Dances of Donegal'
Geantraí, Gael Linn, 2006 (DVD)
Ireland's Whistling Ambassador: Micho Russell – The Pennywhistler's Press, 1992 (VHS)
Mise Éire, ceol: Seán Ó Riada, Gael Linn, 2006 (DVD)
Music of Ireland: Welcome Home Parts one and two, Elevation Management, 2010 (DVD)
Old Ireland 1 & 2, Michael Lyons (VHS)
Paid To Eat Ice Cream – What's Not To Like? Contra Connections,
 Farnum Hill Prod., 2001 (DVD)
Planxty Live 2004, RTÉ, 2004 (DVD)
Saoirse?, Ceol: Seán Ó Riada, Gael Linn, 2007 (DVD)
The Bodhrán DVD, Ossian Publications, 2005
The Dubliners, Celtic Airs (DVD)
The Fureys & Davey Arthur, Global Records Ireland, 2008 (DVD)
The Magic of Ireland, Ossian Publications, 2001 (VHS)
The Secret of Roan Inish from the novel "The Secret of Ron Mor Skerry" by Rosalie K. Fry
To Erin and Back, Full Circle Productions 1991 (VHS)

O'Donoghue's Opera featuring Ronnie Drew of the Dubliners (YouTube)
Timedance Planxty – Eurovision Song Contest 1981 Interval (YouTube)
The Yellow Bittern – The Life and Times of Liam Clancy (YouTube)